Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

18. (*currently amended*)   A notification method concerning a transaction being effected between a mobile first party and a second party having associated premises, the method comprising:

(a)   storing first data as to that concerns a future visit of the first party to the premises and identifying explicitly or implicitly identifies the parties and location of the premises;

(b)   storing, independently of the first party, second data indicative of the current status of the transaction, said second data being updated by the second party; and

(c)   determining, by using a technical arrangement, when a mobile entity carried by the first party is close to said identified location identified in the first data, and thereupon automatically checking said stored second data to ascertain whether or not the transaction has reached a predetermined status at which it is appropriate for said future visit to be effected, and

_____ (d)   at least where making the visit is found in step (c) to be appropriate, notifying the first party by a communication passed to said mobile entity over a communication system that making the visit is appropriate.

19. (*canceled*)

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20. (previously presented)   The method according to claim 18, wherein said first data is stored by the second party in a third-party service system, the location of the first party being provided to the third-party service system for effecting the determination in step (c) by either the first party or by a location server.

21. (previously presented)   The method according to claim 18, wherein said first data is stored by the first party in a third-party service system, the location of the first party being provided to the third-party service system for effecting the determination in step (c) by either the first party or by a location server.

22. (previously presented)   The method according to claim 18, wherein said first data is stored by the first party in a mobile entity of the first party, the mobile entity providing the location of the first party for the determination carried out in step (c).

23. (previously presented)   The method according to claim 18, wherein said first data is stored by the first party in a mobile entity of the first party, the mobile entity receiving short-range wireless signals from the premises of the second party, the receipt of said signals being used in the determination carried out in step (c) to indicate that the first party is near the location of the premises.

24. (previously presented)   The method according to claim 18, wherein said second data is stored in a status database maintained by the second party, the status check of step (c) being

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effected by accessing the status database.

25. (previously presented)   The method according to claim 20, wherein said second data is provided by the second party to the third-party service system and stored therein, the status check of step (c) being effected by accessing said second data stored by the third-party service system.

26. (previously presented)   The method according to claim 19, wherein the result of the status check of step (c) is reported to the first party whether or not said predetermined status has been reached.

27. (previously presented)   The method according to claim 18, wherein said predetermined status corresponds to the availability for collection at the premises of an item that is a subject of said transaction.

28. (previously presented)   The method according to claim 19, wherein said predetermined status corresponds to the availability for collection at the premises of an item that is a subject of said transaction and wherein the first party is only notified if said status check indicates that the item is available for collection.

29. (previously presented)   The method according to claim 19, wherein said predetermined status corresponds to the availability for collection at the premises of an item that is a subject of said transaction and wherein said first data includes date data specifying an expected date when the item will be available for collection, and wherein step (c) further comprises checking whether

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or not the item is overdue and not available for collection, and notifying the first party of such circumstances.

30. (previously presented)   The method according to claim 19, wherein said predetermined status corresponds to the availability for collection at the premises of an item that is a subject of said transaction and wherein the first party, on being notified that said item is available for collection, notifies the second party of a planned collection time.

31. (previously presented)   The method according to claim 20, wherein the location of the first party is only provided to the third-party service system upon the first party indicating that any match is to be identified.

32. (*currently amended*)   The method according to claim 20, wherein the second party is given no indication of the location of the first party by the third-party service system except to the extent that a said-match between the locations and parties of the first and second parties is indicated to the second party.

33. (*currently amended*)   The method according to claim 21, wherein the second party is given no indication of the location of the first party by the third-party service system except to the extent that a said-match between the locations and parties of the first and second parties is indicated to the second party.

34. (previously presented)   The method according to claim 18, wherein step (a) is effected by

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the second party during an initial visit of the first party to said premises to instigate said transaction.

35. (*currently amended*)   A notification system concerning a transaction being effected between a mobile first party and a second party having associated premises, the system comprising:

    -     a first store adapted to store first data about a future visit of the first party to said premises with respect to the transaction, said first data explicitly or implicitly identifying the parties and the location of the premises;

    -     a second store, independent of the first party, adapted to store second data indicative of the current status of said transaction, said second store being operative to permit said second data to be updated by the second party;

    -     a location matching arrangement adapted to determine an automatic processor arrangement: for

    (a) determining when a mobile entity carried by the first party is close to said location identified in the first data,

    (b) thereupon checking location; and

a checking arrangement adapted to check said stored second data to ascertain whether or not the transaction has reached a predetermined status at which it is appropriate for said future visit to be effected in response to the location matching arrangement determining that the first party is close to said location, and

    (c) notifying the first party of the result of the check carried out by the checking arrangement at least where making the visit is found to be appropriate, the processor being

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arranged for notifying the first party by causing a communication to be passed to said mobile
entity over a communication subsystem.

36. (*canceled*)

37. (previously presented)   The system according to claim 35, wherein said first store and said
location-matching arrangement both comprise part of a third-party service arrangement, and
wherein the system further comprises an input arrangement associated with the second party and
arranged to input said first data to said first store.

38. (previously presented)   The system according to claim 37, wherein said checking
arrangement and said second store also comprise part of said third-party service arrangement.

39. (previously presented)   The system according to claim 35, wherein said predetermined
status corresponds to the availability for collection at the premises of an item that is a subject of
said transaction, and wherein said first data further comprises date data specifying an expected
date when the item will be available for collection, and wherein said checking arrangement is
further adapted to check whether or not the item is overdue and not available for collection, and
to cause the communication subsystem to notify the first party of such circumstances.

40. (*currently amended*)   A storage medium or program storage device, readable by a
machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a
notification method concerning a transaction being effected between a mobile first party and a

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second party having associated premises, the method comprising:

(a)   storing first data as to a future visit of the first party to the premises and _explicitly_ _or implicitly_ identifying the parties and location of the premises;

(b)   storing, independently of the first party, second data indicative of the current status of the transaction, said second data being updated by the second party; ~~and~~

(c)   determining when _a mobile entity carried by_ the first party is close to said identified location, and _thereupon_ checking said stored second data to ascertain whether or not the transaction has reached a predetermined status appropriate for said future visit to be effected, _and_

(d)   at least where making the visit is found in step (c) to be appropriate, notifying the _first party by a communication passed to said mobile entity over a communication system that_ _making the visit is appropriate._

41.   *(canceled)*

42. *(currently amended)*   The ~~program~~ medium or storage device according to claim 40, wherein said first data is stored by the second party in a third-party service system, the location of the first party being provided to the third-party service system for effecting the determination in step (c) by either the first party or by a location server.

43. *(currently amended)*   The ~~program~~ medium or storage device according to claim 40, wherein said first data is stored by the first party in a third-party service system, the location of the first party being provided to the third-party service system for effecting the determination in

step (c) by either the first party or by a location server.

44. (*currently amended*) The ~~program~~ medium or storage device according to claim 40, wherein said first data is stored by the first party in a mobile entity of the first party, the mobile entity providing the location of the first party for the determination carried out in step (c).

45. (*currently amended*) The ~~program~~ medium or storage device according to claim 40, wherein said first data is stored by the first party in a mobile entity of the first party, the mobile entity receiving short-range wireless signals from the premises of the second party, the receipt of said signals being used in the determination carried out in step (c) to indicate that the first party is near the location of the premises.

46. (*currently amended*) The ~~program~~ medium or storage device according to claim 40, wherein said second data is stored in a status database maintained by the second party, the status check of step (c) being effected by accessing the status database.

47. (*currently amended*) The ~~program~~ medium or storage device according to claim 42, wherein said second data is provided by the second party to the third-party service system and stored therein, the status check of step (c) being effected by accessing said second data stored by the third-party service system.

48. (*currently amended*) The ~~program~~ medium or storage device according to claim 4140, wherein the first party is notified of the result of the status check of step (c) whether or not said

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predetermined status has been reached.

49. (*currently amended*)   The ~~program~~ medium or storage device according to claim 40, wherein said predetermined status corresponds to the availability for collection at the premises of an item that is a subject of said transaction.

50. (*currently amended*)   The ~~program~~ medium or storage device of claim ~~41~~40, wherein said predetermined status corresponds to the availability for collection at the premises of an item that is a subject of said transaction and wherein the first party is only notified if said status check indicates that the item is available for collection.

51. (*currently amended*)   The ~~program~~ medium or storage device of claim ~~41~~40, wherein said predetermined status corresponds to the availability for collection at the premises of an item that is a subject of said transaction and wherein said first data includes date data specifying an expected date when the item will be available for collection, and wherein step (c) further comprises checking whether or not the item is overdue and not available for collection, and notifying the first party of such circumstances.

52. (*currently amended*)   The ~~program~~ medium or storage device of claim ~~41~~40, wherein said predetermined status corresponds to the availability for collection at the premises of an item that is a subject of said transaction and wherein the first party, on being notified that said item is available for collection, notifies the second party of a planned collection time.

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53. (*currently amended*)   The ~~program~~ medium or storage device according to claim 42, wherein the location of the first party is only provided to the third-party service system upon the first party indicating that any match is to be identified.

54. (*currently amended*)   The ~~program~~ medium or storage device according to claim 42, wherein the second party is given no indication of the location of the first party by the third-party service system except to the extent that ~~a said~~ match between the locations and parties of the first and second is indicated to the second party.

55. (*currently amended*)   The ~~program~~ medium or storage device according to claim 43, wherein the second party is given no indication of the location of the first party by the third-party service system except to the extent that a ~~said~~ match between the locations and parties of the first and second is indicated to the second party.

56. (*currently amended*)   The ~~program~~ medium or storage device according to claim 40, wherein step (a) is effected by the second party during an initial visit of the first party to said premises to instigate said transaction.

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